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CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEMINATION

SECRET

26 AUG 72 16 59Z

GAC JFH MAC VNA
CITE DIRECTOR

JHW JFH JFH JFH

3059667

EKH HSE LCP DCS

KJS JES

SVN: Phung
Hoang

REF: SAIGON 53699 (IN 693314)*

1. BELIEVE ANSWERS TO ALL SYMINGTON QUESTIONS CAN BE INCORPORATED IN MACV RESPONSE WITHOUT NECESSITY OF REFERRING DOD TO HQS FOR DATA WHICH WE PREFER AVOID.

2. RE PARA 2 REF, PRIOR JULY 1969, [] FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PHUNG HOANG WAS LIMITED TO ONE-THIRD OF COST, WITH MACV PAYING TWO-THIRDS. THERE WERE NO OPERATIONAL COSTS AND OUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT WAS FOR SUCH ITEMS AS [] MANAGERIAL PERSONNEL, OFFICE SPACE, AIR TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND PART-TIME [] UP-COUNTRY ADVISORY PERSONNEL. STATION CAN PROVIDE MACV BASIC DATA ON NUMBER [] PERSONNEL DEVOTED TO PHUNG HOANG PRIOR 1969 AND AMOUNT OF FUNDS CONTRIBUTED. DO NOT IDENTIFY [] OFFICERS. THIS DATA SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED SECRET.

3. RE PARA 3 REF, PROPOSE MACV INDICATE ONE [] ADVISOR

COORDINATING OFFICERS

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GROUP 1
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/continued/
AUTHENTICATING
OFFICER

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TO CURRENTLY ASSIGNED PHUNG HOANG, AGAIN WITHOUT IDENTIFYING POSITION OR NAME. THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED SECRET.

4. RE PARA 4 REF, SUGGEST MACV ANSWER QUESTIONS PARAS 1 F AND 1 G REF IN SIMPLEST TERMS INDICATING NUMBERS OF PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TUWIDE AND REGIONAL INTERROGATION CENTERS WITHOUT STATING (SINCE IT NOT ASKED) BREAKDOWN BETWEEN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OR AGENCY AFFILIATION. QUESTION ON CURRENT AND PAST FUNCTIONS OF ADVISORS SHOULD POSE NO PROBLEM. APPROVED INTERROGATION METHODS CAN BE CITED, AND WE SEE NO PROBLEM IN ACKNOWLEDGING THAT MACV AWARE THERE HAVE BEEN RARE ISOLATED INCIDENTS OF TORTURE CONDUCTED BY VIETNAMESE WITHOUT AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT OR CONDONATION. POINT THAT INTERROGATION CENTERS NOT PHUNG HOANG RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE MADE TOGETHER WITH STATEMENT THAT REQUESTED DATA PROVIDED IN ORDER BE FULLY RESPONSIVE SYMINGTON QUERIES.

5. IF FURTHER HQS ASSISTANCE REQUIRED, PLEASE ADVISE.

/continued/

COORDINATING OFFICERS

RELEASING OFFICER **SECRET** AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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305966

TO

6. NO FILE. E2 IMPDET.

END OF MESSAGE

*Senator Symington has requested data on U.S. funding and personnel support of Phung Hoang program on yearly basis since its inception. Also requested data on U.S. personnel assigned to interrogation centers, interrogation methods, etc.

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CFE

COORDINATING OFFICERS

RELEASING OFFICER

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BY: EB AT: 0630 Z

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PRECEDENCE

CITE SAIGON 53699

PRIORITY DIRECTOR.

REF9 SECDEF MSG TO COMUSMACV 242207Z

1. FOLL IS TEXT OF REF:

"1. SENATOR SYMINGTON HAS REQUESTED THE DEPARTMENT
TO ANSWER SEVERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PHUNG
HOANG PROGRAM. HE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE
IN PROVIDING US WITH ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING
QUESTIONS:

"A. WHAT HAS BEEN THE EXTENT OF UNITED STATES
FINANCING OF THE PHUNG HOANG PROGRAM BY FISCAL
YEAR SINCE ITS INCEPTION? FROM WHAT APPROPRIATION
HAVE THESE FUNDS COME? WHAT HAS BEEN THE EXTENT
OF FINANCING BY THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT
FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR?

"B. HOW MANY PURPORTED MEMBERS OF THE VIET
CONG INFRASTRUCTURE HAVE BEEN 'NEUTRALIZED' DURING
THE YEAR IN WHICH THE PROGRAM HAD BEEN IN EXISTENCE?

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OF THOSE NEUTRALIZED, HOW MANY HAVE BEEN
KILLED? HOW MANY CAPTURED AND HOW MANY
HAVE RALLIED?

"C. HOW MANY VIETNAMESE HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO
CUSTODY UNDER THE PROGRAM? HOW MANY OF THESE
HAVE BEEN SENTENCED? HOW MANY ARE NOW IN
CONFINEMENT? HOW MANY WERE RELEASED WITHOUT
HAVING BEEN SENTENCED? WHAT IS THE AVERAGE LENGTH
OF THE PERIOD OF THEIR CONFINEMENT?

"D. WHAT JUDICIAL PROCESSES ARE OBSERVED IN THE
PROGRAM. A THAT IS - ARE THOSE WHO ARE CAPTURED
TRIED AND, IF SO, BY WHAT KIND OF TRIBUNAL?

"E. HOW MANY AMERICAN ADVISORS HAVE BEEN
ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROGRAM IN EACH YEAR THAT
THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE? HOW MANY ARE
NOW INVOLVED? OF THOSE PRESENTLY INVOLVED,
HOW MANY ARE MILITARY PERSONNEL AND HOW MANY ARE
CIVILIANS? FROM WHAT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES DO
THESE CIVILIANS COME?

"F. ARE THERE AMERICAN ADVISORS ATTACHED TO

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INTERROGATION CENTERS? WHAT FUNCTIONS DO
AMERICAN ADVISORS PRESENTLY PERFORM? WHAT
FUNCTIONS HAVE AMERICAN ADVISORS PERFORMED
IN THE PAST BUT NO LONGER PERFORM?

"G. WHAT INTERROGATION METHODS ARE USED?
TO WHAT EXTENT HAS THERE BEEN TORTURE OF
PRISONERS?

"2. IF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IS USED IN ANSWERING
ANY PART OF THE QUESTIONS PLEASE INDICATE THE
CLASSIFICATION OF THE ITEM IN COST FIGURES,
STRENGTH, ETC. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR RESPONSE
BY 1 SEPT 72."

2. QUESTIONS ABOUT FINANCING AND NUMBER OF ADVISORS
SINCE PROGRAM BEGAN CANNOT BE ANSWERED BY CORDS BECAUSE
PRIOR JULY 69 PROGRAM WAS MANAGED BY STATION. PROPOSE
WE HAVE CORDS LIMIT ITS REPLIES TO THESE QUESTIONS TO
PERIOD SINCE JULY 69 AND RECOMMEND IN ITS ANSWER TO REF
THAT DOD COORDINATE HANDLING OF EARLIER PERIOD WITH HQS.

3. RE LAST QUESTION IN PARA E, PROPOSE CORDS SAY IN
ITS REPLY THAT DOD SHOULD CONSULT WITH HQS RE STATUS OF

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DIRECTOR OF PHUNG HOANG ().

4. AS FOR PARAS F AND G OF REF, WE BELIEVE CORDS SHOULD SIMPLY STATE THAT PHUNG HOANG PROGRAM NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERROGATION CENTERS.

5. PLS ADVISE RE PARAS 2, ^{3, 4} ~~2, 3~~ ABOVE WITH ANY ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE. PROMPT REPLY WOULD BE APPRECIATED AS CORDS UNDER PRESSURE TO PRODUCE DRAFT REPLY WHICH WILL REQUIRE ELABORATE COORDINATION WITHIN MACV.

E2 IMPDET

S E C R E T

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